



Charles Watkins
27 Elizabeth Way
Hill Top NSW 2575

10 July 2011

Michelle Carmsie
Director Strategic Planning
23 Bridge St
Sydney 2000

RE : Application MP06_0232 Mod 4

Dear Ms Carmsie ,

I would like to register my opposition to the application to modify the noise levels at the Southern Highlands Shooting Complex.

I have complained in the past about the noise coming from the existing 800mt range to Wingecarribee Council and most recently to Bowral Police (30 June). The amenity of our village of Hill Top is being damaged by the sound of gunfire over and above world recommended sound level limits. The sad part is the noise will only increase when the new ranges are open for business. Why are we being subjected to unhealthy noise limits?

I was medically retired from the Ambulance Service of NSW in 2004 after sustaining injuries whilst carrying out my Paramedic Rescue duties. I am very aware of the type of physical and mental response that gunfire evokes, (startle reflex or fight or flight) this response even more applicable now that I have been diagnosed with a cardiac arrhythmia's.

In a paper produced for The Royal Canadian Mounted Police titled Shooting Ranges and Sound it is suggested that sustained or repeated exposure to the fight or flight response caused by gunfire could lead to persistent changes in the neurophysiological, endocrine, sensory, digestive and cardiovascular systems which in turn could cause deterioration in health.

I am no longer in a position to sell up my home and move to a quieter place and why should I. The Dept of Planning should help protect the village of Hill Top and its residents, and not destroy it further with even higher noise levels.

Yours Faithfully

Charles Watkins

Resident Hill Top

